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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/091,740	03/06/2002	Travis J. Parry	10013768-1	8466

7590

09/02/2005

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EXAMINER

HOMAYOUNMEHR, FARID

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2132

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

87

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,740

Applicant(s)

PARRY, TRAVIS J.

Examiner

Farid Homayounmehr

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1 to 41 has been examined.

Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449

No Information Disclosure Statement has been filed.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities:

The phrase 'desired location' does not appear in claim 3 or 1 and is not defined.

Examiner suggests changing 'desired location' to 'destination'. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2.1. Claims 12 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for transferring the location of the data across the firewall, does not reasonably provide enablement for transferring the data itself. The

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specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. The scope of the specifications is transferring data to the destination across a firewall. Claims 12 and 24 disclose a method to send the location of data across the firewall. How would the data be transferred to the destination, after its location is identified?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 to 11, 13 to 23, and 25 to 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schwartz (US Patent Application Publication US 2002/0199114 A1).

3.1. As per claim 1, Schwartz is directed to a method of transmitting data across a firewall (paragraph [0013] line 1), the method comprising:
receiving a request to transmit data to a destination (paragraph [0028], where the client's attempt to open a connection discloses a request to transmit data); searching for a firewall associated with the destination (paragraph [0028] lines 8 to 11), the firewall

being configured to prohibit communication to the destination via a primary communication protocol (Fig 4 and paragraph [0029] as disclosed by TCP port x, where the connection is not established), and allow communication to the destination via a secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0003], as it is describing the general functionality of a firewall); if the firewall is detected, automatically configuring the data for communication with the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5); and transmitting the data to the destination by utilizing the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029]).

3.2. As per claim 2, Schwartz continues to teach the method of claim 1, further comprising: transmitting the data to the destination by utilizing the primary communication protocol if the firewall is not detected (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5).

3.3. As per claim 3, Schwartz is directed to the method of claim 1, wherein the request to transmit the data to the destination comprises a primary address (paragraph [0028] line 4) of the destination related to the primary communication protocol and a secondary address of the destination related to the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029], where, after the failure to connect via TCP, the device tries to open a HTTP connection, which discloses a secondary communication protocol and secondary address).

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3.4. As per claim 4, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 3, wherein the destination is a printer and a print job comprises the data that is requested to be transmitted. Printer is a computer peripheral that puts text or a computer-generated image on paper or on another medium, such as transparency film. Local printers communicate with the network via a PC, and network printers are directly connected to the network. Schwartz clearly discloses display and I/O devices (Fig. 2, item 220 and paragraph [0016]) as the parts comprising the clients' computer. In addition, Schwartz discloses traditionally connected devices, which are devices configurable to communicate through the firewall, and non-traditional devices, which are devices that must be connected to another device (e.g. a PC) in order to communicate (paragraph [0024]). Traditionally connected devices and non-traditional devices receive jobs in form of data directly or indirectly from the network, correspondingly. As indicated in Fig. 3, both traditionally connected and non-traditional devices are behind the firewall, and are disclosed as destinations for data to be transmitted across the firewall. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.5. As per claim 5, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 3, wherein searching for the firewall comprises pinging the primary address of the desired location. Pinging is sending out a small amount of information, or a packet, to a destination connected to the network, and examining the response to determine if the destination is responsive to network requests. Schwartz discloses initiation of a first connection and evaluating the connection for the response from the remote system (claim 1). More specifically,

Pinging is sending out ICMP Echo Request Packets. Schwartz discloses ICMP as one of the protocols to initiate the first connection (claim 2). Therefore, the Examiner asserts that it discloses the feature.

3.6. As per claim 6, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 2, wherein searching for the firewall comprises:

scanning the desired location to find an open port, the open port being related to the primary communication protocol; and detecting the firewall, if present, upon not finding the open port. Scanning is examining sequentially, part by part. As disclosed in Fig. 4, and described in paragraph [0029] the device that is transmitting the data examines the firewall by initiating connections using TCP, HTTP, and other options sequentially until a connection is established (Open port found). Therefore, it discloses the feature.

3.7. As per claim 7, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 2, wherein searching for the firewall comprises:

attempting to transmit the data via the primary communication protocol, such that a failure to successfully transmit the data via the primary communication protocol would signify the firewall is present. As described in Schwartz paragraph [0027], attempting to initiate a connection, involves transmitting data. Schwartz maintains that depending on the type of the communication protocol, different set of steps and data exchanges may be involved to determine whether a connection is established. Furthermore, when data

transmission is unsuccessful, Schwartz tries another protocol (Fig. 4), which indicates that a firewall blocking the primary transmission is detected. Therefore it discloses the feature.

3.8. As per claim 8, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 2, wherein the primary communication protocol is any one or combination of the following:
the Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP), the Transfer Control Protocol (TCP), the Internet Protocol (IP), the File Transfer Protocol (FTP), and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP). Schwartz clearly discloses primary communication protocols HTTP, TCP and UDP in claim 2, and IP in claim 10.

Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls (paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.9. As per claim 9, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 3, wherein the secondary communication protocol is an
electronic mail (email) protocol (as disclosed in paragraph [0045], referring to RFCs for a list of potential protocols for communication, one of which is RFC 821, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol), and the secondary address is an email address (when SMTP is

used as secondary communication protocol, an email address must be selected as the destination address); and further wherein automatically configuring the data for communication comprises: generating an email; addressing the email to the secondary address; and populating the email with pertinent information that correlates to the data. Data must be configured appropriately before transferred using any communication protocol. When email is used as the communication protocol, it is well known that an email must be generated, addressed to the email address of the destination, and the data must be configured in the format that is suitable for email.

3.10. As per claim 10, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 9, wherein automatically configuring the data for communication further comprises: placing the data in the email (see section 3.9 above).

3.11. As per claim 11, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 9, wherein automatically configuring the data for communication further comprises: attaching the data to the email, the data being stored in a file (see section 3.9 above. Attachment is a well known way to configure data for transfer using email).

3.12. As per claim 13, Schwartz discloses the method of claim 3, wherein the secondary communication protocol is the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and the secondary address is an FTP address. Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls

(paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.13. As per claim 14, Schwartz is directed a system for rerouting the transmission of data to avoid a firewall (paragraph [0013] line 1), the system comprising: a transmission device configured to search for a firewall protecting a destination (paragraph [0028], where the client's attempt to open a connection discloses a request to transmit data), the firewall being configured to prohibit communication to the destination via a primary communication protocol searching for a firewall associated with the destination (paragraph [0028] lines 8 to 11), the firewall being configured to prohibit communication to the destination via a primary communication protocol (Fig 4 and paragraph [0029] as disclosed by TCP port x, where the connection is not established), and allow communication to the destination via a secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0003], as it is describing the general functionality of a firewall), the transmission device is further configured to, upon detection of the firewall, automatically configure the data for communication over the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5) and transmit the data by utilizing the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029]).

3.14. As per claim 15, Schwartz continues to teach the system of claim 14, wherein the transmission device is further configured to, upon not detecting the firewall, transmit the data to the destination by utilizing the primary communication protocol (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5).

3.15. As per claim 16, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 15, wherein the transmission device is further configured to receive a request to transmit the data to the destination, wherein the request comprises at least one of the following: a primary address and a secondary address of the destination, the primary address being related to the primary communication protocol (paragraph [0028] line 4) and the secondary address being related to the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029], where, after the failure to connect via TCP, the device tries to open a HTTP connection, which discloses a secondary communication protocol and secondary address).

3.16. As per claim 17, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 15, wherein the transmission device is further configured to search for a firewall by scanning the destination to find an open port, the open port being related to the primary communication protocol, upon not finding the open port, the firewall is detected. Scanning is examining sequentially, part by part. As disclosed in Fig. 4, and described in paragraph [0029] the device examines the firewall by initiating connections using TCP, HTTP, and other options sequentially until a connection is established (Open port found). Therefore, it discloses the feature.

3.17. As per claim 18, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 16, wherein the transmission device is further configured to search for a firewall by pinging the primary address of the destination. Pinging is sending out a small amount of information, or a packet, to a destination connected to the network, and examining the response to determine if the destination is responsive to network requests. Schwartz discloses initiation of a first connection and evaluating the connection for the response from the remote system (claim 1). More specifically, Pinging is sending out ICMP Echo Request Packets. Schwartz discloses ICMP as one of the protocols to initiate the first connection (claim 2). Therefore, the Examiner asserts that it discloses the feature.

3.18. As per claim 19, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 16, wherein the transmission device is further configured to search for a firewall by attempting to transmit the data via the primary communication protocol, such that a failure to successfully transmit the data via the primary communication protocol would signify the firewall is present. As described in paragraph [0027], attempting to initiate a connection, involves transmitting data. Schwartz maintains that depending on the type of the communication protocol, different set of steps and data exchanges may be involved to determine whether a connection is established. Furthermore, when data transmission is unsuccessful, Schwartz tries another protocol (Fig. 4), which indicates that a firewall blocking the primary transmission is detected. Therefore it discloses the feature.

3.19. As per claim 20 Schwartz discloses the system of claim 16, wherein the secondary communication protocol is an electronic mail (email) protocol (as disclosed in paragraph [0045], referring to RFCs for a list of potential protocols for communication, one of which is RFC 821, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

3.20. As per claim 21, Schwartz discloses the system of claim 20, wherein the secondary address is an email address (when SMTP is used as secondary communication protocol, an email address must be used as the destination address) and wherein the transmission device is further configured to automatically configure communication by: generating an email; addressing the email to the secondary address; and populating the email with pertinent information that correlates to the data. When email is used as the communication protocol, an email must be generated, addressed to the email address of the destination, and the data must be configured in the format that is suitable for email.

3.21. As per claim 22, Schwartz discloses the system of claim 21, wherein the transmission device is further configured to automatically configure the data for communication by placing the data in the email (see section 3.21 above).

3.22. As per claim 23, Schwartz discloses the system of claim 21, wherein the transmission device is further configured to automatically configure the data for communication by attaching the data to the email, the data being stored in a file (see

section 3.21 above. Attachment is a well know method to configure data for transfer using email).

3.23. As per claim 25, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 16, wherein the secondary communication protocol is the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and wherein the secondary address is an FTP address. Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls (paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.24. As per claim 26, Schwartz discloses the system of claim 15, wherein the primary communication protocol is any one or combination of the following: the Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP), the Transfer Control Protocol (TCP), the Internet Protocol (IP), the File Transfer Protocol (FTP), and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP). Schwartz clearly discloses primary communication protocols HTTP, TCP and UDP in claim 2, and IP in claim 10.

Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls (paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication

protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol.

Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.25. As per claim 27, Schwartz discloses the system of claim 15, further comprising: a recipient device configured to be the destination, the recipient device further configured to communicate with the primary and secondary communication protocol (Fig. 4 and paragraph [0027]).

3.26 As per claim 28, Schwartz is directed to the system of claim 27, wherein the recipient device is a printer and a print job comprises the data. Printer is a computer peripheral that puts text or a computer-generated image on paper or on another medium, such as transparency film. Local printers communicate with the network via a PC, and network printers are directly connected to the network. Schwartz clearly discloses display and I/O devices (Fig. 2, item 220 and paragraph [0016]) as the parts comprising the clients' computer. In addition, Schwartz discloses traditionally connected devices, which are devices configurable to communicate through the firewall, and non-traditional devices, which are devices that must be connected to another device (e.g. a PC) in order to communicate (paragraph [0024]). Traditionally connected devices and non-traditional devices receive jobs in form of data directly or indirectly from the network, correspondingly. As indicated in Fig. 3, both traditionally connected and non-traditional devices are behind the firewall, and are disclosed as destinations for

data to be transmitted across the firewall. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.27 As per claim 29, Schwartz is directed to a transmission device configured to transmit data to a destination, the transmission device comprising: means for transmitting the data by utilizing a secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029]), means for searching for a firewall (paragraph [0028] lines 8 to 11), the firewall being configured to prohibit communication to the destination by a primary communication protocol (Fig 4 and paragraph [0029] as disclosed by TCP port x, where the connection is not established), and allow communication to the destination via the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0003], as it is describing the general functionality if a firewall); and means for automatically configuring the data for communication for the secondary communication protocol upon detecting the firewall (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5).

3.28. As per claim 30, Schwartz is directed to the device of claim 29, further comprising means for transmitting the data by utilizing the primary communication protocol, wherein upon not detecting the firewall, the data is transmitted by utilizing the primary communication protocol (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5).

3.29. As per claim 31, Schwartz is directed to the device of claim 30, further comprising means for receiving a request to transmit the data to the destination

(paragraph [0028], where the client's attempt to open a connection discloses a request to transmit data).

3.30. As per claim 32, Schwartz is directed to the device of claim 31, wherein the request comprises at least one of the following: a primary address (paragraph [0028] line 4) and a secondary address of the destination, the primary address being related to the primary communication protocol and the secondary address being related to the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029], where, after the failure to connect via TCP, the device tries to open a HTTP connection, which discloses a secondary communication protocol and secondary address).

3.31. As per claim 33, Schwartz is directed to the device of claim 31, wherein the secondary communication protocol is an electronic mail (email) protocol (as disclosed in paragraph [0045], referring to RFCs for a list of potential protocols for communication, one of which is RFC 821, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

3.32. As per claim 34, Schwartz is directed to the device of claim 32, wherein the secondary address is an email address (when email is the means to transfer information, and SMTP is used as secondary communication protocol, an email address must be used as destination address), and wherein the means for automatically configuring the data for communication for the secondary communication protocol comprises: means for generating an email, means for addressing the email to the

secondary address; means for populating the email with pertinent information that correlates to the data; and means for populating the email with the data . Data must be configured appropriately before transferred using any communication protocol. When email is used as the means to transfer data an email must be generated, addressed to the email address of the destination, and the data must be configured in the format that is suitable for email.

3.33. As per claim 35, Schwartz is directed to a data transmission program stored on a computer-readable medium (paragraph [0014]), the transmission program comprising: logic configured to facilitate the transmission of data by utilizing a secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029]); logic configured to search for a firewall (paragraph [0028] lines 8 to 11), and logic configured to automatically configure communication for the secondary communication protocol upon detecting the firewall protocol (paragraph [0029]).

3.34. As per claim 36, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 35, wherein the firewall is configured to prohibit communication to a recipient device via a primary communication protocol (Fig 4 and paragraph [0029] as disclosed by TCP port x, where the connection is not established), and allow communication via the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0003], as it is describing the general functionality of a firewall).

3.35. As per claim 37, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 36, further comprising logic configured to facilitate the transmission of the data by utilizing the primary communication protocol, wherein upon not detecting the firewall, the data is transmitted by utilizing the primary communication protocol (paragraph [0029] line 1 to 5).

3.36. As per claim 38, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 36, further comprising logic configured to receive a request to transmit the data to the recipient device (paragraph [0028], where the client's attempt to open a connection discloses a request to transmit data), the request comprising of at least one of the following: a primary address (paragraph [0028] line 4) and a secondary address of the recipient device, the primary address being related to the primary communication protocol and the secondary address being related to the secondary communication protocol (paragraph [0029], where, after the failure to connect via TCP, the device tries to open a HTTP connection, which discloses a secondary communication protocol and secondary address).

3.37. As per claim 39, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 38, wherein the secondary address is an electronic mail (email) address (which must be the case when communication protocol is email) and the secondary communication protocol is an email protocol (as disclosed in paragraph [0045], referring to RFCs for a list of potential protocols for communication, one of which is RFC 821, Simple Mail Transfer Protocol);

and wherein the logic configured to automatically configure the data for communication for the secondary communication protocol comprises: logic configured to generate an email; logic configured to address the email to the secondary address; logic configured to populate the email with pertinent information that correlates to the data; and logic configured to populate the email with the data. Data must be configured appropriately before transferred using any communication protocol. When email is used as the communication protocol, it would be obvious to a person with ordinary skills in the art that an email must be generated, addressed to the email address of the destination, and the data must be configured in the format that is suitable for email.

3.38. As per claim 40, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 38, wherein the secondary communication protocol is the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and the secondary address is an FTP address. Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls (paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

3.39. As per claim 41, Schwartz is directed to the program of claim 36, wherein the primary communication protocol is any one or combination of the following: the Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP), the Transfer Control Protocol (TCP), the Internet

Protocol (IP), the File Transfer Protocol (FTP), and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP). Schwartz clearly discloses primary communication protocols HTTP, TCP and UDP in claim 2, and IP in claim 10.


Schwartz recognizes and mentions FTP packets as another example of protocol data units examined and evaluated by firewalls (paragraph [0005]). Schwartz also refers to RFCs as other potential standards and protocols to be used as primary communication protocol (paragraph [0045]), one of which is RFC 959, The File Transfer Protocol. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that Schwartz discloses the feature.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farid Homayounmehr whose telephone number is 571 272 3739. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hrs Mon-Fri, off Monday biweekly.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571) 272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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